

Mineral Industry Surveys

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ALUMINUM IN JUNE 2006

Domestic primary aluminum production in June was 188,809 metric tons (t), according to the U.S. Geological Survey. The average daily production rate was 6,294 t, about 1% lower than that of the previous month and 8% below the rate for June 2005. Production for the first 6 months of 2006 was about 8% lower than that for the comparable period in 2005. The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot decreased significantly in June to \$1.192 per pound from \$1.355 per pound in May, according to Platts Metals Week. The American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum used beverage cans (UBCs) decreased throughout most of June, continuing the downward slide that began in mid-May. On June 1, the price range decreased to 89–91 cents per pound; on June 6, it decreased to 86–88 cents per pound; on June 13, it decreased to

81–83 cents per pound; on June 16, it decreased to 80–82 cents per pound; and on June 20, it fell to 79–81 cents per pound. On June 27, the price range increased a penny to 80–82 cents per pound and remained at this level through the end of the month.

Update

In July, the monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot remained relatively stable at \$1.196 per pound. The American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum UBCs fluctuated during July. On July 11, the buying price range increased to 83–85 cents per pound and on July 19, it increased again to 85–87 cents per pound. On July 25, the price range decreased to 82–84 cents per pound and remained at this level through the end of the month.

TABLE 1
COMPONENTS OF ALUMINUM SUPPLY¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Primary production	Secondary recovery ²			Imports for consumption			Total new supply ³	Total stocks, end of period ⁴
		New	Old	Total	Metals and alloys, crude	Plates, sheets, bars, etc.	Total		
2005 ^p	2,481	1,910 ^r	1,120	3,030 ^r	3,660	1,190	4,850	10,400 ^r	1,430
2005:									
June	206	153	96	249	324	107	431	886	1,500
July	210	170	96	267	324	104	428	904	1,550
August	208	167	96	262	264	110	374	845	1,510
September	199	157	91	248	282	97	379	827	1,590
October	207	161 ^r	95	256 ^r	298	94	393	856 ^r	1,550
November	204	151	84	236	240	91	330	770	1,440
December	208	143	82	225	299	89	388	821	1,430
January-June	1,244	964	571	1,540	1,950	606	2,560	5,340	1,500
2006:									
January	197	167 ^r	88 ^r	256 ^r	348	97	445	897 ^r	1,490
February	179	160 ^r	85	244 ^r	247	87	333	757 ^r	1,680
March	198	167 ^r	92	259 ^r	289	104	393	850 ^r	1,480
April	190	159 ^r	90	249 ^r	353	103	456	895 ^r	1,480
May	197	161	90	251	318	106	424	872	1,430
June	189	164	84	248	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
January-June	1,149	979	529	1,510	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised. NA Not available.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except "Primary production"; may not add to totals shown.

²Metallic recovery from purchased, tolled, or imported scrap, expanded for full coverage of industry.

³Primary production, secondary recovery, and imports for consumption.

⁴Inventory levels reflect total for both U.S. and Canadian producers; data from the Aluminum Association Inc.

TABLE 2
ESTIMATED FULL COVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF AND METALLIC RECOVERY FROM
PURCHASED NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Secondary smelters		Integrated aluminum companies		Independent mill fabricators		Foundries		Other consumers		Total	
	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery
2005 ^p	1,740	1,260	823 ^r	732 ^r	1,010	943	98	87	6	6	3,670 ^r	3,030 ^r
2005:												
June	138	103	67	60	84	79	9	8	1	1	299	249
July	141	102	92	83	79	74	8	7	1	1	321	267
August	151	109	77	69	82	77	8	7	(2)	(2)	319	262
September	148	107	65	58	80	75	8	7	(2)	(2)	302	248
October	154	112	66 ^r	59 ^r	83	78	8	7	(2)	(2)	312 ^r	256 ^r
November	138	101	62	55	77	72	8	7	(2)	(2)	285	236
December	129	93	63	56	74	69	8	7	(2)	(2)	274	225
January-June	879	638	396	352	533	499	50	44	(2)	(2)	1,860	1,540
2006:												
January	138	101	76 ^r	68 ^r	84	79	8	7	(2)	(2)	307 ^r	256 ^r
February	133	97	78 ^r	70 ^r	75	70	8	7	(2)	(2)	294 ^r	244 ^r
March	144	105	80 ^r	72 ^r	80	75	8	7	(2)	(2)	313 ^r	259 ^r
April	140	101	79 ^r	71 ^r	74	70	8	7	(2)	(2)	302 ^r	249 ^r
May	143	104	65	58	88	82	8	7	(2)	(2)	304	251
June	143	95	76	68	84	79	8	7	(2)	(2)	311	248
January-June	841	603	454	407	485	455	48	42	3	3	1,830	1,510

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Less than ½ unit.

TABLE 3
CONSUMPTION OF AND RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED
NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP IN JUNE 2006¹

(Metric tons)

	Consumption		Calculated metallic recovery	
	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage
Secondary smelters	119,000	143,000	79,100	94,900
Integrated aluminum companies	75,600	75,600	67,600	67,600
Independent mill fabricators	70,100	84,200	65,400	78,500
Foundries	6,590	7,900	5,790	6,940
Other consumers	355	426	355	426
Total	272,000	311,000	218,000	248,000

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

TABLE 4
PURCHASED AND TOLL-TREATED ALUMINUM-BASE SCRAP AND SWEATED PIG IN JUNE 2006¹

(Metric tons)

	June				January-June ²	
	Stocks, opening	Net receipts ³	Melted or consumed	Stocks, closing	Net receipts ³	Melted or consumed
New scrap:						
Extrusion	24,400	74,900	72,800	26,500	440,000	439,000
Can stock clippings	970	20,000	20,000	930	117,000	118,000
Other wrought sheet/clippings	7,630	25,500	25,500	7,600	153,000	153,000
Casting	878	7,590	7,340	1,140	42,100	42,700
Borings and turnings	7,020	11,600	11,700	6,960	69,000	69,900
Dross and skimmings	3,790	37,300	37,200	3,870	217,000	217,000
Total new scrap	44,700	177,000	175,000	47,000	1,040,000	1,040,000
Old scrap:						
Used castings	5,710	15,900	16,600	5,030	94,100	94,900
Used extrusion	137	295	295	137	1,770	1,770
Used cans (shredded, loose, baled)	1,950	63,900	63,800	2,120	357,000	356,000
Other wrought products	3,930	5,900	5,900	3,930	36,600	36,600
Fragmentized shredder (auto shredder)	3,870	12,000	9,990	5,930	71,200	69,100
Total old scrap	15,600	98,100	96,600	17,100	560,000	558,000
Sweated pig	289	703	703	289	4,310	4,310
Total all classes	60,600	276,000	272,000	64,400	1,600,000	1,600,000

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Includes revised data from previous month(s).

³Includes data on imported aluminum-base scrap.

TABLE 5
ALUMINUM ALLOYS PRODUCED AT SECONDARY SMELTERS IN THE UNITED STATES FOR 2006^{1,2}

(Metric tons)

	June				January-June ³	
	Stocks, opening	Production	Net shipments	Stocks, closing	Production	Net shipments
Die-cast alloys:						
13% Si, 360, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	5,450	1,170	1,340	5,280	7,620	7,790
380 and variations	2,600	15,400	15,600	2,420	91,400	92,800
Sand and permanent mold:						
95/5 Al-Si, 356, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	1,160	1,910	2,010	1,060	11,400	11,400
No. 319 and variations	3,480	5,840	5,440	3,870	38,000	36,700
F-132 alloy and variations	688 [†]	1,600	1,620	660	10,400	10,600
Al-Zn alloys	117	139	154	102	998	993
Al-Si alloys (0.6% to 2.0% Cu)	39	46	46	39	275	275
Al-Cu alloys (1.5% Si, max.)	45	325	325	45	1,950	1,950
Other ⁴	6,180	5,920	6,160	5,940	34,500	34,100
Wrought alloys:						
Extrusion billets	9,300	19,400	19,400	9,210	119,000	119,000
Total all alloys	29,100 [†]	51,700	52,200	28,600	315,000	315,000
Less:						
Primary aluminum consumed	XX	9,180	XX	XX	58,200	XX
Primary silicon consumed	XX	2,000	XX	XX	14,500	XX
Other alloying ingredients consumed	XX	1,350	XX	XX	5,190	XX
Net metallic recovery from aluminum scrap and sweated pig consumed in production of secondary aluminum ingot ⁵	XX	39,200	XX	XX	237,000	XX

[†]Revised. XX Not applicable.

¹Excludes integrated aluminum companies.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³Includes revised data from previous months.

⁴Includes alloys No. 12, Al-Mg, Al-Si-Cu-Ni, aluminum-base hardeners, variations of these alloys, plus other aluminum alloys.

⁵No allowance made for melt-loss of primary aluminum and alloying ingredients.

TABLE 6
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ALUMINUM IN MAY 2006¹

(Metric tons)

Country	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	May	January-May	May	January-May	May	January-May	May	January-May
Argentina	6,620	23,900	7	32	--	--	6,620	24,000
Australia	4,440	21,700	14	48	35	303	4,490	22,000
Bahrain	15,100	35,100	1,570	6,470	--	--	16,600	41,500
Belgium	43	71	482	2,650	83	83	608	2,800
Brazil	15,300	66,300	1,840	10,400	178	356	17,300	77,100
Canada	182,000	851,000	45,400	224,000	29,700	138,000	257,000	1,210,000
China	4,220	18,400	15,300	57,500	--	2	19,500	75,900
France	24	178	307	2,180	--	18	331	2,380
Germany	372	3,270	9,590	50,100	26	143	9,990	53,500
Hungary	--	--	418	1,120	--	--	418	1,120
Italy	11	157	276	1,250	--	--	287	1,400
Japan	59	172	1,530	7,910	92	333	1,680	8,410
Korea, Republic of	--	72	253	1,180	117	117	370	1,370
Mexico	78	397	1,960	8,440	12,100	52,100	14,100	61,000
Netherlands	77	386	241	823	--	92	319	1,300
Norway	82	89	34	112	--	--	116	200
Russia	47,200	290,000	4,690	17,300	282	2,950	52,100	310,000
South Africa	12,800	48,300	4,030	22,800	--	--	16,800	71,200
Spain	13	122	109	522	--	--	122	645
Sweden	1,030	1,640	388	2,150	--	31	1,420	3,820
Switzerland	--	1,100	522	2,260	--	--	522	3,360
Tajikistan	--	25,700	--	--	--	--	--	25,700
United Arab Emirates	11,300	47,900	--	3	--	--	11,300	47,900
United Kingdom	348	29,800	966	2,470	164	1,040	1,480	33,300
Venezuela	14,700	67,400	932	7,030	234	1,110	15,900	75,500
Other	2,310	21,700	14,900	67,500	4,870	17,800	22,100	107,000
Total	318,000	1,550,000	106,000	497,000	47,900	215,000	471,000	2,270,000

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7
U.S. EXPORTS OF ALUMINUM IN MAY 2006¹

(Metric tons)

Country or territory	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	May	January-May	May	January-May	May	January-May	May	January-May
Australia	61	121	248	697	8	42	317	859
Belgium	308	734	1,050	3,380	246	284	1,610	4,400
Brazil	1	65	498	2,180	22	133	521	2,380
Canada	13,700	59,800	43,400	203,000	20,300	63,500	77,400	327,000
China	218	1,570	4,800	14,000	141,000	412,000	146,000	428,000
Czech Republic	--	(2)	47	75	--	--	47	75
Dominican Republic	36	56	8	117	33	33	76	206
France	9	28	1,440	6,070	--	4	1,450	6,110
Germany	52	123	1,320	4,950	8	96	1,380	5,170
Hong Kong	269	1,040	1,120	3,800	3,720	10,500	5,110	15,300
India	30	160	48	255	918	3,330	996	3,740
Israel	235	560	710	1,700	--	--	945	2,260
Italy	12	14	1,080	2,550	--	--	1,090	2,560
Japan	1,130	4,920	3,640	9,790	4,690	21,300	9,460	36,000
Korea, Republic of	108	501	1,850	6,210	19,100	59,800	21,000	66,500
Malaysia	9	12	273	977	46	1,560	327	2,550
Mexico	20,600	89,700	23,200	113,000	11,900	45,400	55,700	248,000
Netherlands	14	63	54	306	--	44	69	414
Russia	--	165	9	39	--	--	9	205
Saudi Arabia	--	--	3,190	12,900	--	(2)	3,190	12,900
Singapore	12	33	165	763	--	--	177	796
Spain	5	21	153	620	--	7	158	648
Sweden	--	1	22	57	--	--	22	58
Taiwan	91	207	1,160	4,560	8,420	28,200	9,670	33,000
Thailand	540	1,140	463	3,530	2,690	7,340	3,700	12,000
Ukraine	--	--	--	2	--	--	--	2
United Kingdom	23	123	1,580	8,370	66	169	1,670	8,660
Venezuela	8	21	149	583	--	1	158	606
Other	1,040	3,140	4,080	17,900	3,990	21,800	9,100	42,900
Total	38,500	164,000	95,800	423,000	217,000	676,000	352,000	1,260,000

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.